

STANSFIELD TURNER

3 February 1982

Dear Bill,

In your letter to me on the [] you mentioned your feeling that I did not handle my criticism of the new Executive Order well. I can appreciate your view that I should have shared my views with you, rather than the public.

To begin with I thought that I had made my views available to you in advance of going public. I submitted a manuscript on this subject for clearance last October (subsequently published in Post on 1 Nov). Knowing that either you or Bobby must personally clear all of my articles, I assumed that if you wanted to dissuade me from my opinions or probe the reasons behind my views, you would have called me.

Beyond that, going public was necessary to try to rectify what I sincerely believe to be a major set back for our intelligence capabilities. My hope is that by bringing attention to the weaknesses in the new order, we can induce Congress to reopen the issue of passing a charter for intelligence. At least some of what bothers me most about the new order could be corrected in a charter.

Sorry to have these differences of opinion and approach. I assure you that I only want to be supportive of our intelligence efforts. That does, however, include sharing my views with the public where I believe that they may be useful in shaping opinion in support of what's good for our intelligence.

I have written a more complex exposition of my views on the new Executive Order and submitted it for clearance. I'm enclosing a personal copy for you.

Yours,



STANSFIELD TURNER

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

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P.S. I would be grateful if you would review the requirement I noted above for DCI/DDCI approval of my writings. I find that an otherwise very speedy and cooperative process is sometimes slowed to where it hurts me. I also, frankly, find it demeaning.